

A METHOD OF PROFITING BY INVENTING

[0001] The present application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/592,976, filed Jul. 31, 2004.

BACKGROUND

[0002] Inventors—the true creators of the world's wealth—are ironically not the primary possessors of the massive wealth they create. In a nutshell, even some of the world's most prolific inventors have modest incomes and modest standards of living. In large part, this is because most inventors work for large corporations, to whom they have an obligation to assign rights to all of their inventions. While the American patent system loudly proclaims its desire to motivate inventors with a 20-year exclusive ownership interest in their inventions, most inventors actually take home merely their salary and an occasional thousand-dollar patent bonus. Thus, potentially the largest source of untapped inventive power is within the self-employed and those who do not have a pre-existing obligation to assign another the rights to their creations—in other words, those who must foot the entire bill of developing and patenting an invention themselves. Thanks to a poisonous debt-based economy in which virtually all new money is issued as a fundamentally nonrepayable loan secured by real assets, insolvency among even the country's wealthiest increases as they struggle to keep their paper net worth positive. Even the most frugal and hard-working inventor likely would have difficulty in footing a \$10,000 bill for a patent application. Thus, many present inventions go unexploited and unpublicized, and many future inventions are squashed by the prospect of diminished or zero returns.

[0003] There is a need for a method of profiting by inventing by extremely prolific, but otherwise poor or modest, inventors.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0004] The present invention aims to solve at least one of these and other problems.

[0005] In one embodiment, a method of doing business comprises performing or inciting another to perform at least one of steps a)-f): a) ascertaining an invention record; b) identifying an inventor; c) estimating a cost to breaking the invention record; d) indicating to a sponsor that the inventor intends to invent sufficiently many inventions to break the invention record; e) providing evidence to the sponsor that the inventor is capable of inventing sufficiently many inventions to break the invention record; and f) inciting the sponsor to pay for at least a portion of the cost at least in part by offering to the sponsor at least one of: at least a portion of royalty rights relating to the inventions; and at least a portion of media rights relating to the inventor, wherein steps a)-f) are performed.

[0006] In one aspect, the method further comprises performing or inciting another to perform at least one of steps k)-l): k) soliciting the creation of a profit-producing medium based at least in part on the inventor breaking the invention record; and l) cooperating to create the medium, wherein steps k)-l) are performed.

[0007] In one aspect, the evidence comprises evidence that the inventor has already invented at least twenty inventions.

In one aspect, the cost comprises statutory fees for application submission, prosecution, and issuance. In one aspect, the cost comprises compensation for drafting patent applications.

[0008] In one aspect, step c) comprises: estimating a number of at least one of issued patents and submitted patent applications necessary to break the invention record; and estimating a cost to at least one of prepare, submit, and obtain the number.

[0009] In one aspect, the method further comprises assembling a patent application drafting team, the assembling comprising at least one of steps g)-j): g) providing at least one registered patent agent or registered patent attorney; h) providing a plurality of workers, each of the workers at least one of non-registered and substantially inexperienced at drafting patent applications; i) teaching the plurality of workers how to draft patent applications; and j) inciting the at least one registered patent agent or registered patent attorney to review and submit patent applications drafted by the plurality of workers, wherein steps g)-j) are performed.

[0010] In one aspect, the method further comprises compensating the plurality of workers with at least one of: at least a portion of royalty rights relating to the number; and at least a portion of media rights relating to the inventor. In one aspect, the method further comprises compensating the at least one registered patent agent or registered patent attorney with at least one of: at least a portion of royalty rights relating to the number; and at least a portion of media rights relating to the inventor. In one aspect, the method further comprises compensating the inventor with at least one of: at least a portion of royalty rights relating to the number; and at least a portion of media rights relating to the inventor.

[0011] In one aspect, the invention record is a prolificness in a period of time, the period of time between approximately one month and approximately two years. In one aspect, the invention record is a prolificness in a period of approximately one year. In one aspect, the invention record is a largest number of patent applications submitted. In one aspect, the invention record is a largest number of patents received.

[0012] In one aspect, step c) comprises: estimating a patent allowance percentage; estimating a number of submitted patent applications necessary to break the invention record based at least in part on the patent allowance percentage; and estimating a cost to at least one of prepare and submit the number.

[0013] In one aspect, the invention record is a largest number of U.S. patent applications, ultimately issuing as patents, solely submitted by a person. In one aspect, the person is a U.S. inventor. In one aspect, the largest number is a largest number in a period of time, the period of time between approximately one month and approximately two years.

[0014] In another embodiment, a method of doing business comprises performing or inciting another to perform at least one of steps a)-c): a) ascertaining an invention record; b) announcing a competition to break the invention record; and c) offering to reward a winner of the competition in exchange for at least one of: at least a portion of royalty